

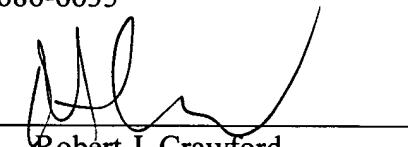
In view of the above, Applicants submit that the rejections should be withdrawn and that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, along with a favorable response, are earnestly requested.

Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (651) 686-6633.

Respectfully submitted,

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651/686-6633

Dated: April 24, 2001

By: 

Robert J. Crawford
Reg. No. 32,122